

2023 JAN 25 AM 11:40

**Town of Norton
Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners
166 John Scott Blvd.
Norton, MA 02766
(508) 285-0280**

**Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2023**

I. Call to Order

The January 10, 2023 meeting of the Norton Water/Sewer Commissioners was held at 166 John Scott Blvd and was called to order at 5:34 pm, by Commissioner Steve Bishop, Chair. Member(s) present: Commissioner James Jardin and Commissioner Steven Bernstein. Also in attendance: Superintendent Frank Fournier, Assistant Superintendent John Harrop, Office Administrator Brooke Durden, Weston & Sampson's Tara McManus & Steve Pedersen, and Turtle Crossing Representative's Lou Tasiopoulos, Ryan Carrera, and Dan Campbell.

Pledge of Allegiance

II. Minutes

1. Minutes from the December 13, 2022 and December 28, 2022 meetings were approved.

Motion was made by Commissioner James Jardin to approve the December 13, 2022 meeting minutes of the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners. Seconded by Commissioner Steven Bernstein. Vote: Commissioner Jardin – Aye; Commissioner Bernstein – Aye; Commissioner Bishop – Aye. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion was made by Commissioner James Jardin to approve the December 28, 2022 meeting minutes of the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners. Seconded by Commissioner Steven Bernstein. Vote: Commissioner Jardin – Aye; Commissioner Bernstein – Aye; Commissioner Bishop – Aye. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

III. Superintendent Updates

1. Flow Testing: On January 4th, the Department worked with Rustic Fire to perform a full flow fire pump test at the Norton Middle School. The fire pump has been out of service for a short period of time due to another fire suppression company

damaging the pump during a test. Commissioner Steve Bishop asked why they would be flowing in the middle of the Winter, as to which Superintendent Frank Fournier replied that in order to put the pump back in service, a full test had to be done.

2. Public Notifications: Even though the fourth quarter samples passed and were below the MCL, the TTHM exceedance notice still had to go out due to exceeding the long-running annual average. The Water Department received a few calls from residents regarding this notice. Superintendent Fournier wanted to reiterate that this is not an emergency and the public notice was sent out as required by Mass DEP to use as an educational tool. Commissioner Steve Bishop asked if we were going to move forward with the same process, and continue to complete targeted distribution flushing. Superintendent Fournier responded that we would since it seemed to work out well last time and he believes that is what helped lower the numbers.
3. Capital Budget: Superintendent Fournier is proposing to put money aside from the Capital Budget to install an aeration system at the 2-million-gallon ground storage tank on Cottage Street. This system will not only lower TTHM, it will also help lower the chlorine usage, as well as having less ice formation in the storage tanks.
4. Manganese Notice: The Manganese Notice will be going out to residents at the end of this week, as well as being posted in the newspaper because of the sample taken at Well 1. Superintendent Fournier mentioned that even though we use this location less and less, we have to sample the source as long as it remains active. Commissioner Bishop wants to reiterate that this sample was taken from raw water.
5. Well 6A: We received approval to put Well 6A online, and it has been up and running for about a week now. We have reached out to Dankris to let them know that they have permission to take our temporary Well 5A offline and start the replacement process. Commissioner James Jardin asked if the output for Well 5A and 6A were roughly the same, as to which Superintendent Fournier responded that they are relatively similar on a permitted range.
6. System Flushing: As previously mentioned, we did some targeted flushing to remove some of the higher age water in the system. On January 17th, we will start back up again focusing on keeping the water as fresh as can be to help keep the TTHM levels down. Our target goal is to get back to full system flushing in the Spring, provided that we have both Wells 5 & 6, and as long as there is no concern of a drought. In addition to the hydrant flushing, we will be running bleeders for about 2-2 ½ weeks to help turn over the higher age water at the dead-end locations. Commissioner Bishop asked when we are scheduled to sample again. Superintendent Fournier replied that our next rounds of samples will be taken in February.
7. Proposed Developments: Superintendent Fournier stated that a developer reached out in regards to a subdivision that they are looking to build at the piece of land between Mansfield Ave and Reservoir Street. Due to the soil conditions, as well as the proximity to the Reservoir, a septic system would not work; therefore, they are looking for the Board to approve a sewer extension. Since the developer does not have any final design plans for the subdivision, Superintendent Fournier mentioned that he has some concerns due to not being able to see what the full calculation would be for their wastewater flow. Although the Commissioners agree this would

be a benefit to the Town, they need to see some plans before they can give any input on this topic and believe it would be best for the developer to attend one of the Board meetings.

8. Superintendent Fournier attended a meeting that focused on the construction grant for the municipal system complex. The Town Manager was also present at this meeting and suggested meeting with the Permanent Building Committee where the timing for the completion of the new Town Hall might coincide with this project. The Commissioners agreed this would be a good idea and will reach out to set up a joint meeting with the Permanent Building Committee to further discuss options regarding the new Town Hall tying-in to the municipal complex system.
9. Assistant Superintendent Updates: Assistant Superintendent John Harrop mentioned that there was an auto dialer issue at the Winnecunnet Pump Station; however, the issue has since been fixed. We are currently working with SCADA to get this pump station set up as it is the last one to be hooked up.

IV. Turtle Crossing Discussion

1. Dan Campbell from Level Design provided some updated plans to the Commissioners that have been modified based upon the memos received from the Department. Mr. Campbell wanted to come before the Board tonight to let the Commissioners know they are working diligently and have made the majority of the modifications; however, they just need to prepare the final set of plans. Commissioner Steven Bernstein asked what the timing of the project would be, as to which Ryan Carrera responded that they will be ready to build as soon as it is approved and the materials are available. It was noted by Commissioner Steve Bishop that these set of plans have a different name on them. Mr. Campbell responded that they wanted to get rid of the name Turtle Crossing and is excited to move the project forward under the new name.

V. Weston & Sampson – Water/Sewer Project Updates

Steve Pederson – Sewer

1. Holly Road/Knollwood: Weston & Sampson's Steve Pedersen received the signed Notice to Proceed today and will set up a pre-construction meeting.
2. Elm Street Sewer Design: There was a meeting on January 4th with the Town Manager, as well as the Town Planner, to go over and execute the contract from the Mass Works grant. The Town will also be working on submitting an application to receive a grant for the construction costs. It was noted that the Town received an additional \$200,000 from the Economic Development Bill for this project and now has a total of \$520,000 to get this project going. The next step would be executing an engineering contract that will clearly state that the money is coming from the grant money. This contract will be presented to the Commissioners once the other contract is finalized and the money is available. Superintendent Fournier made comment that they will need to create an article to present at the Fall Town Meeting in case there is an issue getting the grant money in time as full funding for the project needs to be in place. Commissioner Steven Bernstein wants to make the

residents aware that this project is beneficial to the whole town. Commissioner Steve Bishop agreed and thinks some public outreach and education should be done before Town Meeting.

3. Cobb Street: The last quoted delivery date was March 8th; however, Weston & Sampson's Steve Pedersen will reach back out to confirm.

Tara McManus - Water

4. As Superintendent Frank Fournier previously mentioned, the notices for the TTHM went out for exceeding the long-running annual average. Weston & Sampson's Tara McManus stated that they have been working on the water range map and went out to get some baseline sampling for Chlorine Residuals, as well as TTHM and HAA5. Amendment for Weston & Sampson to complete this additional work was presented to the Board for approval.

Motion was made by Commissioner James Jardin to approve the Mass DEP Compliance Response Reports and UDF update amendment #1 from Weston & Sampson in the amount not to exceed \$8,980.00 and allow Superintendent Frank to sign. Seconded by Commissioner Steven Bernstein. Vote: Commissioner Jardin – Aye; Commissioner Bernstein – Aye; Commissioner Bishop – Aye. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

5. The Optimum Water Quality Parameter report is due to Mass DEP by January 30th, which Weston & Sampson is currently working on.
6. Wells 5 & 6A: Last week, the contractor received approval to put well 6A online and now the plan is to take the temporary system at 5A offline and begin work. The driller is scheduled to be onsite at the end of this week/early next week to get the pitless adapter set up in at Well 5A. Once the startup and testing are done, a site visit with Mass DEP will be scheduled to work on getting approval for Well 5A to be fully online. Weston & Sampson's Tara McManus stated that the VFD has been installed at Well 5A and the one for 6A is scheduled for delivery in mid to late February. Superintendent Fournier asked if there was data available for maximum flow rate. Ms. McManus responded that they are roughly flowing at 425gpm at Well 6A with a potential max around 525-550gpm.
7. White Street: Commissioner Steven Bernstein thanked Weston & Sampson's Tara McManus for getting in touch with Gravity Construction and having them remove their equipment and materials on Newland Street. This past week, Gravity Construction sent in a pay estimate, which Weston & Sampson would like to go over with the Commissioners. Due to some extra unexpected costs and time being spent on the project, Gravity Construction is asking for a change order for about \$23,000 more. Weston & Sampson's Tara McManus stated that she is negotiating with them as she does agree that they should be reimbursed for some costs; however, not that much. Commissioner Steve Bishop would like to see a breakdown of all of the extra charges and discuss it more before a vote is taken. The other Commissioners agreed and asked Ms. McManus to prepare the change order for review.
8. Reilly Property: Weston & Sampson's Tara McManus mentioned the potential costs and duration of how long it would take to do a full study on this property. The study

will include a full review of the viability of the site from a DEP perspective, as well as from a hydrogeo perspective, and do a site visit. More information will be sent over to the Commissioners to further review; however, it is looking like they can get this done in about two months for \$8,000. Superintendent Frank Fournier made comment that they are still waiting on an answer from the attorney representing the Reilly Trust on whether or not they have permission to gain access to the property. Commissioner Steven Bernstein stated that a contract should be drafted, as to which Ms. McManus agreed to work on for next meeting. Superintendent Fournier asked if we would be able to notice any type of influence from the groundwater recharge from this study. Weston & Sampson's Tara McManus stated that they would not be doing any type of physical testing of anything and it would just be a site walk to take a look at how everything drains; however, if it does become a favorable option, the next step would be to install some test wells to take some measurements and do some water quality sampling.

VI. Topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance

1. Commissioner Bernstein asked what is happening on Leonard Street. Superintendent Fournier mentioned that the property is privately owned and there are no plans that the department is aware of as to why it is being cleared out.
2. Assistant Superintendent John Harrop gave an update regarding the Board's meeting schedule and stated that he received word from the Town Manager that it is up to the Board on how often they would like to meet. The Commissioner's decided to meet on the second Tuesday of every month beginning in February.

Motion was made by Commissioner James Jardin to change the meeting schedule of the Board of Water & Sewer Commission Meetings to meet once a month on the second Tuesday of each month starting February 14, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Steven Bernstein. Vote: Commissioner Jardin – Aye; Commissioner Bernstein – Aye; Commissioner Bishop – Aye. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

VII. Bills & Correspondence

1. All bills were reviewed, approved and signed.

VIII. Next Meeting: January 24th

IX. Adjournment

Motion was made by Commissioner James Jardin to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners at 7:24pm. Seconded by Commissioner Steven Bernstein. Vote: Commissioner Jardin – Aye; Commissioner Bernstein – Aye; Commissioner Bishop – Aye. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED MINUTES FOR THE

BOARD MEETING HELD: January 10, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

Brooke Durden

Brooke Durden, Office Administrator

Steve Bishop
Steve Bishop, Chairman

1-24-23
Date Approved

James Jardin
James Jardin, Clerk

1-24-23
Date Approved

Steven Bernstein
Steven Bernstein, Commissioner

1/24/23
Date Approved